

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 040225
ORIGIN ARA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15
AF-10 ACDA-12 NEA-10 /106 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CCA-DEHENDERSON:DPB
APPROVED BY ARA/CCA-WSSMITH

-----030881 161120Z /17

R 152132Z FEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO USINT HAVANA

UNCLAS STATE 040225

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, XA, CU, US

SUBJECT: TEXT OF NOON BRIEFING: 2/9/78

A. DO WE HAVE ANY WIRE SERVICE QUESTIONS? ALL RIGHT, LES.

Q. SENATOR LAXALT, IN EFFECT, ASKED YESTERDAY THE QUESTION:
IF CUBA WILL SEND SO MANY THOUSANDS OF TROOPS TO AFRICA,
WHY WOULDN'T CASTRO SEND TROOPS TO PANAMA?

I WAS WONDERING DOES THE STATE DEPARTMENT HAVE ANY ANSWER
TO SENATOR LAXALT'S QUESTION ON THIS HISTORIC DEBATE?

A. NO.

Q. WHAT I WOULD LIKE TO DO IS FOLLOW THAT UP, IF I COULD,
TOM.

ARE WE OPPOSED TO CUBA SENDING TROOPS TO PANAMA IN THE SAME
WAY WE ARE OPPOSED TO CUBA SENDING TROOPS TO AFRICA AND WHAT
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WOULD WE DO ABOUT IT IF THEY DID SEND TROOPS THERE.

A. THAT IS A HYPOTHETICAL QUESTION.

Q. I REALIZE THAT. I WOULD JUST LIKE TO KNOW WHAT IS THE
POLICY.

TOM, LET ME REPHRASE IT, IF I MAY.

WE WERE OPPOSED TO CUBA SENDING TROOPS TO AFRICA BEFORE
THEY SENT TROOPS TO AFRICA; WERE WE NOT?

A. I DON'T KNOW WHAT THE POSITION OF THE ADMINISTRATION,
THE LAST ADMINISTRATION, ON THAT WAS.

Q. WELL, IN OTHER WORDS, WE WAITED UNTIL THEY GOT THERE
BEFORE WE FORMULATED POLICY OR WHAT?

A. LES, I HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THE POSITION OF THE PRIOR
ADMINISTRATION WAS.

Q. MIDDLE EAST QUESTION?

A. YES.

Q. DID SECRETARY VANCE SEE A TEXT OF PRESIDENT SADAT'S
PRESS CLUB SPEECH IN ADVANCE AND, IF HE DID, DID HE
APPROVE IT?

A. YES. HE DID SEE A TEXT. AS A COURTESY WE WERE PRO-
VIDED AN ADVANCE TEXT OF HIS SPEECH, BUT WE WERE NOT ASKED
TO GIVE OUR APPROVAL AND IT WOULD HAVE BEEN INAPPROPRIATE
THAT WE DO SO.

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Q. DID HE SUGGEST ANY CHANGES IN THE SPEECH?

A. I DON'T THINK I HAVE ANYTHING OFFICIAL TO SAY ON THE
RECORD ABOUT THAT.

Q. WHAT WAS THE QUESTION, PLEASE?

A. DID HE GIVE ANY SUGGESTIONS FOR THE SPEECH.

ON BACKGROUND I CAN TELL YOU THAT HE DID MAKE SOME
SUGGESTIONS.

I AM GOING BACK ON THE RECORD NOW.

VANCE

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
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Draft Date: 15 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 01 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3584000
Secure: OPEN
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To: HAVANA
Type: TE
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